

October 2009

Quick Bio-glance:



JOSEPH HENRY THAYER (1828-1901) , AMERICAN biblical SCHOLAR, was BORN at BOSTON on the 7th of NOVEMBER 1828 . He studied at the Boston Latin School, and graduated at Harvard in 1850 . Subsequently he studied THEOLOGY at the Harvard Divinity School, and graduated at ANDOVER Theological SEMINARY in 1857 . He preached in QUINCY, and in 1859—64 in SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, and in 1862—63 was CHAPLAIN of the 40th Massachusetts VOLUNTEERS . He was PROFESSOR of sacred literature in Andover Seminary in 1864—82, and in 1884 succeeded EZRA ABBOT as Bussey professor of New Testament CRITICISM in the Harvard Divinity School . He died on the 26th of November 1901, soon after his resignation from the Bussey professorship . He was a member of the American BIBLE Revision COMMITTEE and recording secretary of the New Testament COMPANY . His CHIEF WORKS were his TRANSLATION of GRIMM's Clavis Novi Testa-, menti (1887; revised 1889) as A GREEK-ENGLISH LEXICON of the New Testament, and his New Testament bibliography (1890) .

http://encyclopedia.jrank.org/TAV_THE/THAYER_JOSEPH_HENRY_1828_1901_.html

Read more Joseph Henry Thayer...

<http://oasis.lib.harvard.edu/oasis/deliver/~div00672>

Theology term:

Theology

Theology is from the Greek [*theos*] meaning God, and [*logos*] meaning word or discourse. It is the discourse or study of God and the revelation of His omni-perfect attributes, such as His Word, omnipresence, mercy, justice and purposes.

<http://www.mountainretreatorg.net/faq/glossary.html#theology>

Monthly Memory Verse October 2009



(ASV) [Matthew 17:5](#) While he was yet speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

Memory verse for the month: October 2009 (ASV)

Dale's Notes

Read Matthew Chapter 17

10/05/2009

(ASV) **Mat 17:5** While he was yet speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

Keywords: he, yet, speaking behold, cloud, voice, beloved, Son, well, pleased, hear, him

[(ESV) He was still speaking when]

[While **he** was yet speaking] we will start the study with who "**he**" is.

I selected this verse out of Matthew 17 that deals with the transfiguration of Christ but our verse starts with pervious verses. I'll give some background information that leads us up to chapter Matthew 17. First, our passage comes to us six days after events that transpired earlier in chapter 16. I think it's important to see this window of events before Matthew 17 because of the force or miraculous things unfolding.

I'm going to list a few events (you read the rest)

- **Peter declares Jesus our Lord to be the Christ the Son of the living God**
 - **Mat 16:15** He saith unto them, **But who say ye that I am?**
 - **Mat 16:16** And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- **Jesus Christ foretells his death and resurrection**
 - **Mat 16:21** From that time began Jesus to show unto his disciples, that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.
- **Jesus rebukes Peter**
 - **Mat 16:22** And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall never be unto thee.
 - **Mat 16:23** But he turned, and said unto Peter, **Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art a stumbling-block unto me: for thou mindest not the things of God, but the things of men.**

Quick overview: we see Peter recognized for the correct answer in Matthew 16:16, which Christ tells him man didn't reveal His (Christ's) true nature with regards to His (Christ's) question (*Who do men say that I am?*) but His Father that is in heaven (He is the Christ!). Matthew 16:21 Jesus begins to teach his disciples of his death on the cross and his resurrection to come. Now, we come to the stinging rebuke of our savior to Peter (Get behind me Satan) and finally, we can see these are major events that relate to Jesus Christ with the revelation and meaning being given to his disciples (*God is making divine revelation known. Jesus is the Messiah!*).

Here we are six days later in Matthew chapter 17 we see Jesus taking three disciples with him up into a high mountain (Peter, John and James). He is transformed in their sight like the shining sun. The passage tells us of others that would meet with the selected disciples and Jesus; the others are Moses and Elijah. It's at this point our memory verse comes into play with Peter speaking before our Lord, Moses and Elijah. All I can say is wow! What a fearful situation!

Capture this thought, Peter is talking again (*like we saw in chapter 16*) but this time he's talking to the Son of God (*The Christ revealed to his disciples!*) in the hearing of John, James, Moses and Elijah upon a high mountain. Don't forget our savior is shining like the sun, which is His majestic glory, being manifested to his disciples (Read ESV 2 Peter 1:16-21).

Closing:

When I think of Peter in this situation I see myself running off at the mouth, at the wrong place, at the wrong time. This is what comes to my mind.

Psa 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

-And-

1Pe 3:4 but *let it be* the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible *apparel* of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. {I think our beloved Apostle learned this by the time he writes 1st Peter?}

Reason for picking the verse:

I wrestled with selecting our verse this month for couple of days. Trying to select one but somewhere in reading I kept asking God to help me and I landed upon Matthew 17:5 this last Sunday evening.

We saw in John 17:17 Jesus talking to the Father in prayer and this verse shows the Father talking about his beloved son (actually we find our Heavenly Father telling the disciples to listen to His beloved Son). The fact is God the Father came upon them and spoke audibly, in their hearing, in a voice to the disciples (What an awesome thing but how fearful, our God is to be feared).

10/12/2009

(ASV) **Mat 17:5** While he was yet speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

[behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying,]

There is no short cut! To get a better understanding of the verse it requires a past understanding. And to commit this verse to memory requires us to understand the benefit or application.

We left off last with Peter speaking in the presents of John, James, Moses, Elijah and Jesus Christ our Savior!

The passage is clear, blatant and straight forward as to chronological events when reading it. No extra narration from the writer Matthew, just the sequential order of things as they occurred. Now as to what happened and for the reasons they occurred we must take in account the persons at the meeting of the transfiguration but first a term.

Here is a term.

Term: Transfigured – Greek is [metamorphoō](#)

Thayer Definition:

1) to change into another form, to transform, to transfigure

1a) Christ appearance was changed and was resplendent with divine brightness on the mount of transfiguration

Strong's Definition:

From [G3326](#) and [G3445](#); to *transform* (literally or figuratively "metamorphose"): - change, transfigure, transform.

Our word metamorphosis – just like the butterfly, a complete change, transformation

We can conclude when Jesus our Lord went up into the mount his being was changed, completely! His face shined like the sun and his garments were white like snow even with light! I don't think it's hard to understand Jesus wanted the disciples to witness his glory or his coming glory and his death on the cross to come. Moses and Elijah appeared in glory and talked with the Lord concerning his (Greek: **exodos** (departure, death, decease and exit)), which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. We see Peter is still having problems with grasping the weight of what Jesus said six days earlier to all his disciples that the Christ should suffer many things and be put to death!

The fulfillment of all righteousness is the agenda of Jesus Christ, "For the Son of man came not to be ministered unto but to give his life a ransom for many". Like in earlier days of Christ ministry we had the Father speaking at Christ's baptism with John "this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" and John validates to Israel this is He (Son of God – the messiah!). We can read that account in (KJV) **Joh 1:32** And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

The baptism of Christ!

Mat 3:15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

Mat 3:16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;

Mat 3:17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

The witness of John to Israel!

(ESV)Joh 1:31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."

Joh 1:32 And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

Joh 1:33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

Joh 1:34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

Stay on track!

We have Peter talking about building tents or tabernacles and we had Moses, Elijah talking to Christ of His death to be accomplished, when the cloud rolls in. BEHOLD! BEHOLD! It's a fearful, dreadful, overpowering experience! The disciples have to enter into the cloud. We read in Luke's account:

- **Luk 9:34** As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.

Who can escape the hand of God when he overshadows you or calls you into account for your sins? What is your recourse in his present?

- **Rom 6:23** For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who is not undone in his sight?

- **Heb 4:12** For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- **Heb 4:13** And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Peter is silenced and fear has gripped them (*the disciples*) as they're overtaken by the cloud of God! It's in that cloud they hear the voice of God; it's in that cloud God met with them.

I think of the cloud of witness that overshadowed the tent in the wilderness. The cloud would come down and rest over the tent and Moses would speak with God. I think of the cloud pillar of smoke that stood at attention as an armed guard over the children Israel in their wondering. I think of the cloud of smoke that filled the temple at the dedication of Solomon, no-one could enter in the temple! I think of the cloud that lifted Jesus up to glory after his resurrection but **this** cloud appeared to give witness to His only begotten son! **This** cloud comes with joy, it comes in love, it comes in peace and He comes in truth with revelation so there is **no misunderstanding** as to who His beloved son is, and with whom God is well please!

References:

- **Exo 24:16** The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
- **Exo 24:18** Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.
- **Num 12:5** And the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance of the tent and called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward.
- **1Ki 8:10** And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD,
- **1Ki 8:11** so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.
- **1Ki 8:12** Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.

10/19/2009:

(ASV) **Mat 17:5** While he was yet speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

[saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased;"]

Beloved, SON, Well, and Pleased

We are in the midst of the cloud of God, which is overshadowing our beloved apostles. They are within the cloud and in the present of the Almighty. It's inevitable we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ each one of us receiving recompense for the work done in this life! When thinking of God, who doesn't think of His great Judgment?

2Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.
2Co 5:11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience

Just as they entered the cloud, the cloud overshadows them, it was inevitable for them as it is for us, and we must enter, though this cloud doesn't come in judgment. When God moves and speaks who is going to tell him wait!

Let's look at a few things even though this passage/context is about the Christ the son of the living God.

There are glimpses of the glory of Christ that can be referenced in other passages, which are similar in showing the brightness of his glory.

Hebrews:

(ASV)ef·ful·gent (ESV) radiance,and (KJV) brightness

Pronunciation [i-fuhl-juh nt, i-fool-]

–adjective

Shining forth brilliantly; radiant.

Heb 1:1 God, having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets by divers portions and in divers manners,

Heb 1:2 hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in *his Son*, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the worlds;

Heb 1:3 who being the *effulgence* of his glory, and the very image of his substance, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Here we have the very radiance of God being expressed in Christ, God's only begotten Son!

Also, we find the words of the Father giving witness to the Son concerning his deity (Hebrews 1:4-14)!

Rev 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Revelation: John the Apostles accounts of the coming Lord!

Brightness of the glory of Christ

Rev 1:14 His head and *his* hairs *were* white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes *were* as a flame of fire;

Rev 1:15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

Rev 1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance *was* as the sun shineth in his strength.

Rev 1:17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, **Fear not; I am the first and the last:**

All these truths come into play because they speaks of the person of Jesus Christ as to His full nature both as Son of man and the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

Don't walk away without understanding this main fact, the Christ, the messiah (the anointed one), the Lamb of God, and the Son of the living God is now made known to men (Emmanuel – God with us)!

Why do you think all these writers took great care as to whom and what Jesus did? Why John, the Baptist, with his revealing waters? Why the transfiguration? Why the Cloud of Glory overshadowing the children. Why the voice from above?

God reveals His only begotten Son and points to Him for the words of life unto salvation. There is salvation in no other name given among men.

Act 4:12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

We read it's not God's will that all men should perish but a day of judgment will call all into account. None can escape and none can stand of themselves but there is a warning to the children, if the judgment starts in the house of God and the righteous scarcely are saved what shall the end be?

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

1Pe 4:17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

1Pe 4:18 And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

1Pe 4:19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

These words are not hard to understand **"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."**

It's the grace of God to set forth His purpose to those who might be in ignorance concerning His will. His beloved Son gives him great joy! It's His beloved Son with whom He is Well Pleased!

It's His beloved Son that speaks to us in these last days.

It's His (God's) will that we hear him (the Son) and that we hear him clearly, intently and soberly, without distraction, without misunderstanding by taking hold of the words of life from our savior's lips! It's He (Christ) that pays for our sins, not the law handed to Moses, nor the prophet of old (*they witness of Christ even though He fulfills all things concerning them*) but salvation solely rest on Jesus Christ the Son of God and the work of salvation through the Cross to blot out our great transgressions!

Without the illuminating light of our savior men sit in darkness, it's his (Christ) transfiguring light and truth that make us the children of the true God, children of light.

10/28/2009

(ASV) **Mat 17:5** While he was yet speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

[saying, **"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him"**]

I don't know about you but I do know about me. I listen or hear a lot of things every day. We permit things to persuade our thinking. Our beloved Apostle Paul said in Colossian:

(ESV)

Col 3:1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

We know our heavily thoughts are being wrestled with on a moment to moment bases. To act requires us to respond to the Lord's word. To walk in faith requires us to believe the Lord and for us this comes down to whom we listen too. Roman 10:17 **"So Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God"**.

*Blue Letter Bible - Search - occurs in 41 verses in the ESV Page 1 / 2 (1Ki 22:19 - Jer 44:24)

Hear the word of the Lord

(ESV)

2Ch 18:18 And Micaiah said, "Therefore **hear the word of the Lord** : I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing on his right hand and on his left.

I wonder who and what we are going to listen too, today. Can we hear the Lord from Heaven "saying, this is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Are you even aware that you will be put to the test at any moment for your thoughts?

Hear the word of the Lord from the Apostle Paul.

(ESV)

2Cr 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.

2Cr 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

2Cr 10:5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take **every thought captive** to obey Christ,

2Cr 10:6 being ready to punish every disobedience, when **your** obedience is complete

Reminds me of a song written some years ago

"There are many voices in this old world, some good, some bad, some happy, some sad, those that have found me and those who are still searching and have not found my number..

What voice do you hear; hopefully it's the voice of our beloved Shepherd and Savior.

(KJV)

1Jn 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1Jn 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

1Jn 4:3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

1Jn 4:4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1Jn 4:5 They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them.

1Jn 4:6 We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Adam Clark's commentary

"We are of God - We, apostles, have the Spirit of God, and speak and teach by that Spirit. He that knoweth God - who has a truly spiritual discernment, heareth us - acknowledges that our doctrine is from God; that it is spiritual, and leads from earth to heaven."

The Command:

“**Hear ye Him.**” is a command by God the Father. Men will obey some voice and listen to adhere. The voice could be ours or the voice of others but there is no doubt we will listen to someone. The voice of God can be found and the words of Christ can be heard today! Jesus said, “My Sheep hear my voice and follow me, a stranger voice they will not follow.”

Joh 10:1 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.
Joh 10:2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
Joh 10:3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
Joh 10:4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.
Joh 10:5 A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

Finally, remember Psalm 1: Where are your thoughts (he meditates day and night.)? Hear His beloved Son and follow and live.

Psa 1:1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
Psa 1:2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.
Psa 1:3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.
Psa 1:4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Psa 1:5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
Psa 1:6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Maybe you think you can hear the voice from heaven and not be affected; not so with Peter, James and John. The living word and voice of God strikes fear into our souls when we are out of the way! It calls for examination and judgment in righteousness before the true and living God, who is the refining fire.

Mat 17:6 And when the disciples heard [it], they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

Heard what? That's right the voice of GOD! Read our memory verse!

It's Jesus the Son of the living God that breaths peace into our hearts before such a Majestic, Glorious, and Holy God. It's Him we listen to and follow with joy.

Mat 17:7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

It's the beloved Son, who touches us and tells us to not be afraid! Listen to him!

Thank you Holy Father for giving us your Son and complete your work in us that you may be glorified? Keep back your servants from presumious sin and break our hearts to love our Savior in truth and deed? Mold and make us after your will and help us to yield to your true Spirit? Let your words sound out from your people that others may see your only begotten son Jesus Christ in us? Amen